



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES

Hoosier Heartland Adoption Newsletter



June, 2008

Serving Adoptive Families In Indiana

Volume 2, No. 1

Welcome!

We are now in our second year of publication and are earnestly trying to let adoptive parents know what services are available to you and we are growing in terms of what will be offered: more training, scholarships to the Adoption Forum, and new RAD (Reactive Attachment Disorder) training for therapists and providers across the state beginning in 2009 to help families deal with these issues. This newsletter contains a comprehensive list of support groups. We are in the process of "linking" this on the website too. Support is so important for us as adoptive parents, both formal and informal. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) support groups are included as they provide support for those of us dealing with mental illness in our children, especially as they age, and it becomes more apparent. Feel free to contact me at: ann.arvidson@dcs.in.gov with your ideas and any information you may have about additional groups in your area. Also, there is a list of State providers on the in.gov website. Go to **Permanency and Adoption** and then link to **Statewide Adoption Providers**. If you are interested in forming a group, in your area, these providers have the funding and staff available.

And, if you have information about International Adoption Support groups please let us know. Additionally, please try to spread the word that our newsletter is only available online unless your county office elects to send a hardcopy.

Check us out at: www.in.gov/dcs/index.htm—click on Permanency and then Adoption. There will be a link to all the newsletters there.

Indiana Adoption Support Groups

(updated 03/08)

Albion

Foster Care Services offers a post adoption support group on the last Monday of each month (holidays excluded) from 6:15–8:15 PM at the county public library. There is an activity group for children 5 and older both adopted and biological. For more information call 1-800-582-4453.

Batesville

Richard Fardo, is an adoptive parent in the Batesville area, and he is working to start a support group in that area.

He welcomes calls and he can be reached at: 812-934-4314 or 513-532-5385.

Disproportionality Commission Schedules Public Forum Meetings Public Encouraged to Participate

Location On-site Meeting Date

Marion County, Ivy Tech Indianapolis
50 West Fall Creek Pkwy, N. Dr.????

Indianapolis, IN 46208

Tuesday, 5/20/08, 6:30–8:30 PM
Howard County, Ivy Tech Kokomo
1815 E. Morgan Street

Kokomo, IN 46903

Wednesday, 5/28/08, 6:30–8:30 PM
Allen County, Ivy Tech Fort Wayne
3800 North Anthony Blvd.

Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Tuesday, 6/3/08, 6:30–8:30 PM
Clark County, Ivy Tech Sellersburg
8204 Highway 311

Sellersburg, IN 47172

Wednesday, 6/11/08, 6:30–8:30 PM
Lake County, Ivy Tech Gary
1440 East 35th Avenue

Gary, IN 46409

Thursday, 6/19/08, 6:30–8:30 PM
Vanderburgh County, Ivy Tech Evansville
3501 First Avenue

Evansville, IN 47710-3398

Tuesday, 6/24/08, 6:30–8:30 PM
All Six Locations (Teleconference)
Wednesday, 8/27/08, 6:30–8:30 PM



Clark/Floyd Foster Parent Support Group

This group meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month, and adoptive parents are welcome. The meetings start at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted in the Noah's Ark Lodge, 101 Noahs Lane, Jeffersonville, IN 47130. Childcare is available at 5:15 pm for those who would like some free time. Please feed your children before you drop them off.

Facilitated by: Kerrin Omer 502-722-1174 home, 502-451-1020 cell.

Ft. Wayne

Adoption support group sponsored by Catholic Charities.

Contact: 260-422-5625 ext.223 or 1-800-686-7459 or robins@mchsi.com.

Takes place on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:00-8:00 PM at the First Assembly of God Christian Center, 1400 West Washington-Center Road.

It is open to prospective and adoptive parents or foster parents who may be involved in the process either through adopting or assisting in transitioning a child into an adoptive placement.

Hendricks, Putnam, & Morgan Counties/ Heritage Support Group—our website: www.hfasi.org

This group holds monthly meetings to be held on the 3rd Thursday of every month, beginning January 17th, at the Plainfield Library from 6 to 8 PM. There is a pitch-in dinner first, then the adults meet, while the kids participate in planned activities. Anyone who would like to volunteer for helping to supervise children's activities, including older teenagers, would be welcome.

Please email kernersa@hotmail.com or call (765/650-8276) Stephanie Kerner to let me know if you plan to attend or have any questions.

Indianapolis—Families Reaching for Rainbows

The Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health has a support group on the third Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 PM at Lutheran and Child (16th and Ritter) Child care is provided if you pre-register.

For support and a good meal call 205-8281.

Indianapolis—Second Time Around Grandparents Program

The Dr. Martin Luther King Multi-Service Center presentation/

discussion on the third and fourth Tuesday for grandparents and relatives. Dinner and a children's program are offered. Also on the fourth Saturday there is a respite care program.

You must register call Alice Oliver at 923-4581, extension 242.

Indianapolis—The Villages

The Villages offers the Family Connection Network Kinship Care Support Group for relative/kinship foster and adoptive families residing in Marion County. They meet twice a month and participate in other support services for kinship caregivers and their children. A IV-B referral is required.

Contact Tawanna Clarke at 317-273-7575 or tclarke@villages.org

I-PAN—Indiana Post Adoption Network

in collaboration with the University of Indianapolis, meets monthly for a support group and has a respite program for those who participate in the monthly meetings. All are held at the Switzer Student Center at U of I.

The 2007-2008 schedule is available at: www.i-pan.org, they bring in a variety of speakers. Check their website.

Kendallville

An adoption support group through Foster Care Services meets the last Monday of every month (unless it falls on a holiday) from 6-8 PM. They ask for people to RSVP as they have a carry-in dinner and they ask that every family who attends bring a dish to feed at least 15 people. They hold two groups simultaneously—one for adults and one for children 5 years and up. Biological children are welcome and encouraged to attend.

They meet at the Noble County Library located at 126 W. Rush Street in Kendallville, IN 46755.

Muncie

The Delaware County DCS offers an Adoptive/Foster parent support group on the second Wednesday of every month from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Morrison Road and West Bradford Drive (2 blocks south of Walmart).

Contact Rhande Osborn at 765-287-8477

Noblesville

No information but the contacts are the Gergley's and they can be found at lovenest@insightbb.com

Terre Haute

Hamilton Center, Inc. has an adoption support group on the last Monday of the month from 6-8 PM, at the center 500 Eighth Ave, Terre Haute and, they provide childcare (but need to know that ahead of time).

For information contact: Peggy Smothers at 812-231-8206 or PSmothers@hamiltoncenter.org

Vanderburgh County

This group is open to anybody. They meet on the third Tuesday of the month for a pitch-in from 6:00-8:00 PM at St. Anthony's Community Hall on First Ave. (across from Hacienda) However, in November it is on Tuesday, November 13th, and will be a Thanksgiving Celebration. It is also a carry-in meal. The time is 6:00-8:00 PM and will be at Jane/Hiram Davidson's Home. Their number is 812-963-9434. They also sponsor a clothing bank for foster and adoptive parents in Vanderburgh, Posey, Knox, Pike and Warrick counties.

Other Groups Of Interest:

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Indiana Affiliates and Support Groups P.O. Box 22697, Indianapolis, IN 46222-0697

Phone 317-925-9399/ Fax 317-925-9398

Toll Free 800-677-6442

ANDERSON-NAMI/Madison County Support

Meets 1st Thursday, 7:00 PM, Anderson Public Library NAMI C.A.R.E.: 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 12:00 PM, Crestview

President: Rick Wood, 765-208-1515 or 724-1150,

E-mail: namimcrwood@hotmail.com

BLOOMINGTON-NAMI/Greater Bloomington Support

Meets 3rd Monday, 7:00 PM

First United Methodist Church, 219 E. 4th Street, Room 307

Contact: Jill Taylor, 812-335-0459, Jill.Taylor@insightbb.com

COLUMBIA CITY/Support Group

Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 PM, Columbia City United Methodist Church

Contact: Jan Boggs, 260-422-9372 ext. 103

COLUMBUS-NAMI/South Central

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Quinco Behavioral Health Center, 806 Jackson

President: Dee Weeks, 812-376-0020,

E-mail: namiscindiana@netscape.net

ELKHART-NAMI/Elkhart County Support

Meets 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM, St. Paul United Methodist Church

Contact: Charlotte Fletcher, 269-699-5949 or

Irmgard Deford, 574-264-5877

EVANSVILLE-NAMI/Evansville Support

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 6:45 PM, Southwestern Indiana CMHC NAMI C.A.R.E.: 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Evansville Central Library, 2nd Fl. Small Group Conference Rm.

President: Larry Back, 812-897-1694

E-mail: lgbjrb@earthlink.net

FORT WAYNE-NAMI /Fort Wayne Support

Meets every Tuesday, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, Carriage House, 3327 Lake Avenue

Contact the office at 260-447-8990 or

Kathy Bayes, 260-483-6308

GARY: NAMI/Gary Metropolitan Chapter Support

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6 PM Methodist Hospital North Lake Campus, Room A.

Contact Kathy Burney 219-886-4335 (daytime)

E-mail: Kburney@methodisthospitals.org

INDIANAPOLIS-NAMI/Indianapolis

For Information please call 317-767-7653 (voice mail information line), or write P.O. Box 40866, Indianapolis, IN 46240-0866

President: Carole Wills

Support Groups:

Central

Meets 1st and 3rd Saturday, 2 PM., Holy Angels Catholic School Parish Ctr., 2822 Martin Luther King Jr. St.

East

Meets 4th Thursday, 7:00 PM, Gallahue Community Support Center, 1640 N. Ritter

North

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Hebrew Congregation, 6501 N. Meridian Street,

South

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7:00 PM, Adult and Child Mental Health Center, 8320 Madison Avenue

West

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Speedway Christian Church, 5110 W. 14th St. Room 111

Noblesville

3rd Thursday, 7pm, United Methodist, 2051 E. Monument St.

Visions:

Families with Children & Adolescents: 2nd Thursday, 7:00 PM, Jordan YMCA, 8400 Westfield Blvd., Indianapolis, 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Witham Hospital Community Rm., Lebanon
Contact: Alishia MacKinnon, 765-483-1267

INDIANAPOLIS: NAMI CARE

North: 4th Tuesday, 7 PM, 6501 N. Meridian St.

Northwest: 2nd & 4th Saturday at 10 PM, John Wesley Free Methodist, 5900 W. 46th St.

South: 2nd & 4th Thursday 7 PM, Adult & Child Mental Health Center, 8320 Madison Avenue

JEFFERSONVILLE: NAMI

Southern Indiana Support: Family and Consumers combined monthly meeting, 3rd Thursday of each month @ 7 PM, Morton

Memorial UMC, 435 Eastern Blvd., Clarksville. Family only meetings, 2nd Thursday of each month @ 7 PM, same as above.

Call Charlotte Davis, 812-282-6494

KOKOMO: NAMI

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Southside Christian Church

Support NAMI C.A.R.E.: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Southside Christian Church

President: Jim & Karla Buchanan, 765-864-0827,

E-mail: nami-kokomo@kokomo1.net

LAKE COUNTY: NAMI

Lake County Support: Meets 2nd and 4th Friday at 7 PM, Southlake Mental Health Center NAMI C.A.R.E.

Call for times Contact: contact Lillian Garth, 219-887-0629

LAFAYETTE: NAMI

West Central Support: Meets 2nd and 4th Monday, 7:00 PM, St. Elizabeth School of Nursing 1st flr. West lounge NAMI C.A.R.E.: Tuesday, 10:00 AM

Bill Lefurgy, 765-423-6939,

E-mail: William.Lefurgy@nami-wci.org

LAWRENCEBURG: NAMI

Southeast Support: Meets 1st Tuesday at Dearborn County Mental Health Clinic, Dearborn Shopping Plaza, Lawrenceburg (Call for meeting time)

Contact Linda Emory, 812-537-0398

LOGANSPOUT: NAMI, Cass County Support

Meets 2nd Monday, 6:00 PM, Four County Counseling Center, 1015 Michigan Ave. Logansport, IN, 46947

Contact: Jenny Craig, 574-722-4910 for meeting information, President: Karen Menzie, 574-753-6667

MARION: NAMI, Grant-Blackford Counties Support

Meets 1st Wednesday, 7:00 PM, CMHC

President: Sandy Westafer, 765-664-0227

MUNCIE: NAMI Delaware County Support

Meets 2nd Thursday, Storer Elementary, 3221 W. Mansfield Dr., Rm. 221, *Call for summer location

President: Mary Bedel 765-289-5826

RICHMOND: NAMI East Central Support

Meets 1st Tuesday, 7:00 PM, Dunn Center, 831 Dillon Dr.

Contact: Jennifer Claypool, 765-966-4094

nami@dunncenter.org

SOUTH BEND: NAMI, St. Joseph County

Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 PM, Madison Center Meeting Room

NAMI C.A.R.E.: 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30PM, same as above

President: Ann Jones, 574-259-3564

TERRE HAUTE: NAMI Wabash Valley Support

Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM, Memorial United Methodist Church, 2704 Poplar.

Affiliate Leader: Betty Porter, 812-877-9950

VALPARAISO: NAMI Porter County

Support: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 7:00 PM, Aled P. Davies Independence Clubhouse, 1454 W. Lincolnway . Visions: Meets 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm, Same as above

Contact Barb Layton, 219-764-2958.

Email: namiportercounty@msn.com

WARSAW: NAMI Warsaw Support

Meets Every Tuesday, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, First United Methodist Church

President: Todd Biller, 574-551-5552,

E-mail: toddtaeq@earthlink.com

Campus Affiliates

Purdue University

Contact: Josh Van Arsdall, joshv@purdue.edu

Indiana University Bloomington

Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis

Ball State University, IU East

For meeting information call 1-800-677-6442.

Hold These Dates! Adoption Forum

September 18 -19, 2008

Marten House, Indianapolis, IN go to www.IAACCS.com for information. This is the 36th year for this conference!! Scholarships available (30) for adoptive families.

IARRCA

This annual conference will take place September 17-19, 2008 at the Hilton North. Brochures will be available around August 1st.

IFCAA

Mid -November 2008 at the Marten House in Indianapolis. This is the 36th year for this conference!!